

ICING & TURBULENCE

OVERVIEW:

IDENTIFY FORMATION, TYPES, AND INTENSITIES OF
TURBULENCE AND ICING AND THEIR EFFECT ON
AIRCRAFT.

TURBULENCE **is caused by**

Disrupt, irregular movements of the air that create sharp, quick updrafts and downdrafts. These up and downdrafts occur in combinations and move aircraft unexpectedly

Two basic types of atmospheric conditions that cause turbulence to occur are : Thermal conditions and Mechanical

TURBULENCE LEVELS OF INTENSITY

Areas of consideration:

1. In and near Cumulus clouds.

1. **LIGHT TURBULENCE** - The aircraft experiences erratic changes in attitude and/or altitude, caused by a variation of wind speed of 5-19 mph with a vertical displacement of 5-19 feet per second.

Cumulus Cloud
(little vertical extent)

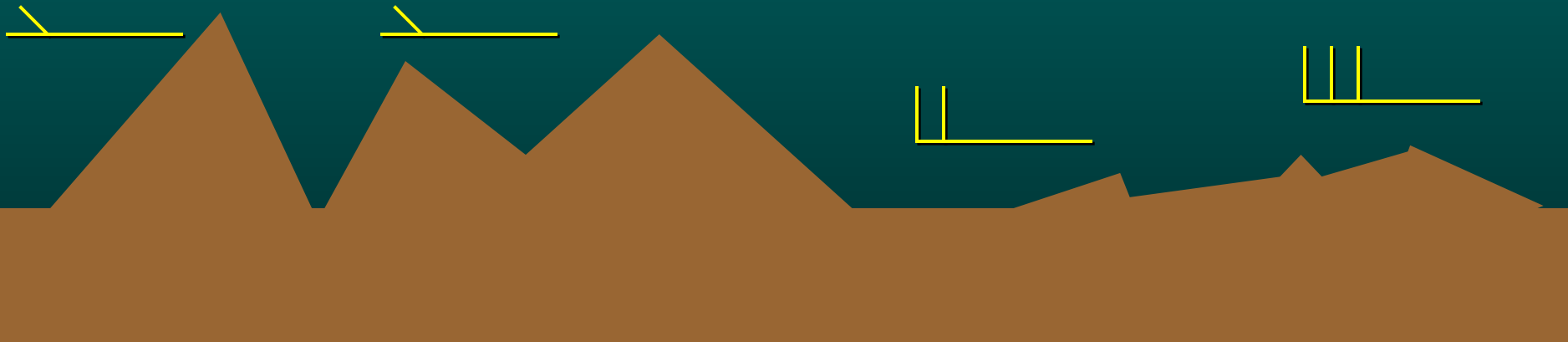


TURBULENCE

LEVELS OF INTENSITY

Areas of consideration:

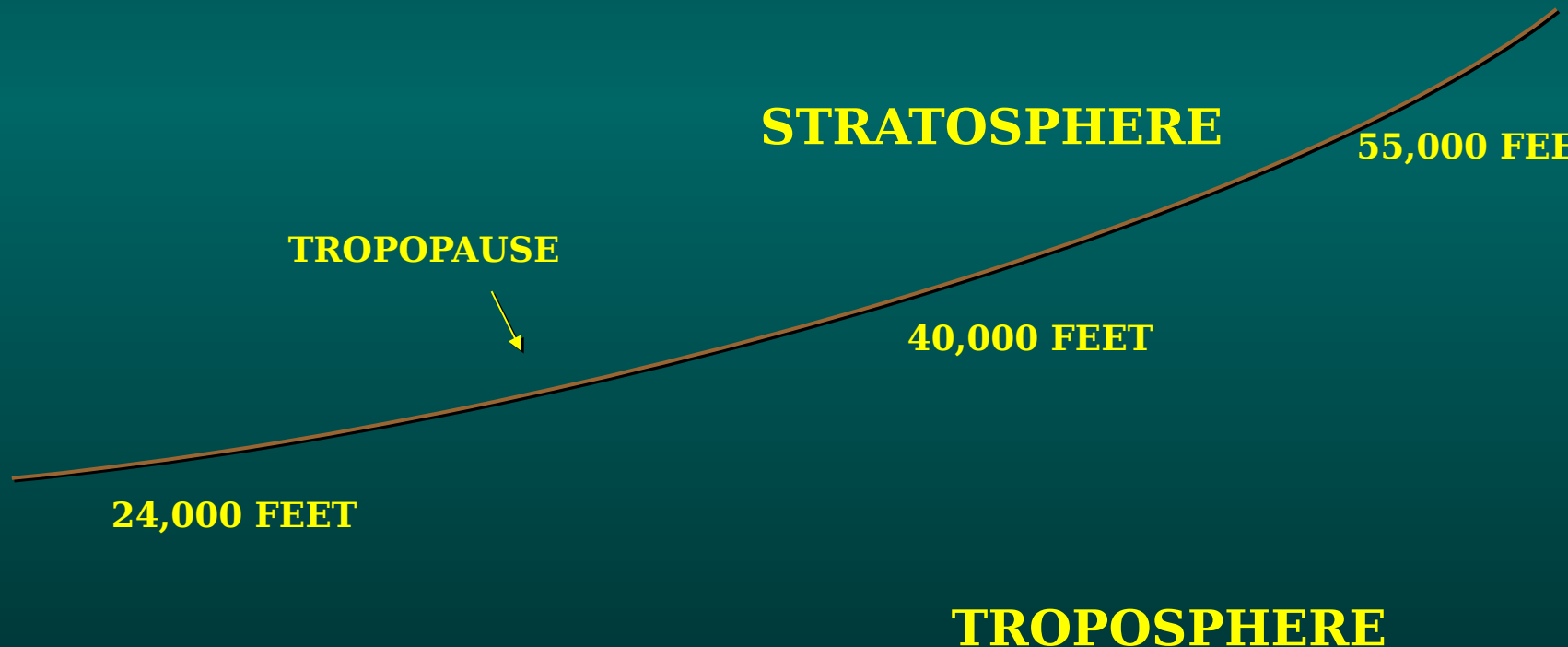
2. At low altitudes in rough terrain when winds exceed 15 knots.
3. In mountainous areas, even with light winds.



TURBULENCE LEVELS OF INTENSITY

Areas of consideration:

4. Near the tropopause -



TURBULENCE

LEVELS OF INTENSITY

1. In and around Towering Cumulus and Cumulonimbus.

2. Moderate Turbulence - The
in attitude and/or alt
control at all times. T
in airspeed of 15-2
ond.

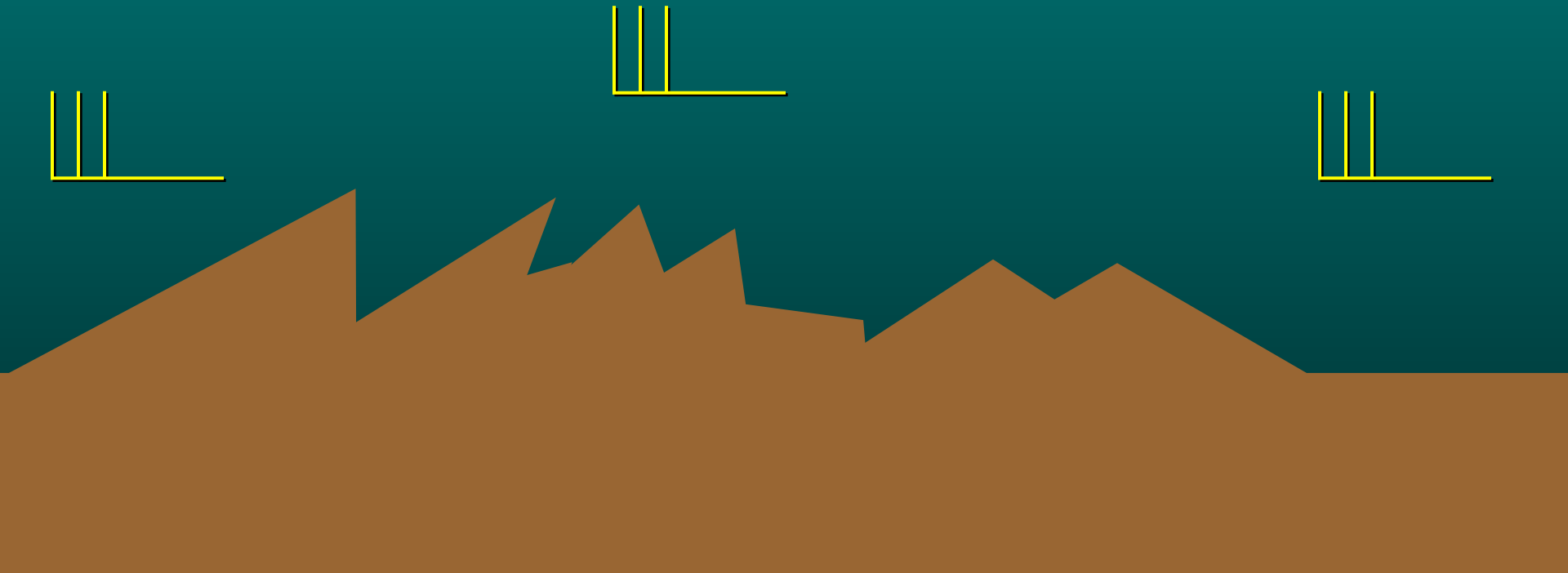
Cumulonimbus (CB)
Great vertical extent

owering Cumulus (TCU) -
twice as tall as it is wide

TURBULENCE

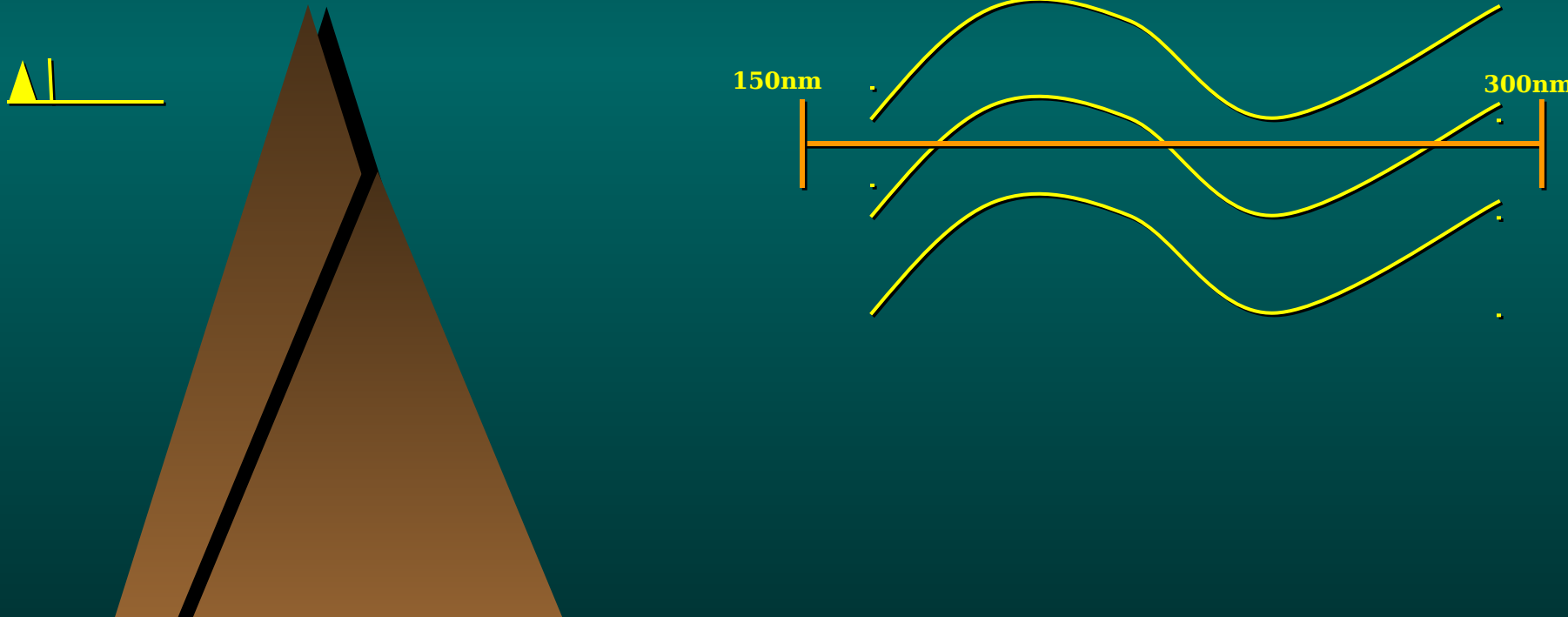
LEVELS OF INTENSITY

2. At low altitudes in rough terrain, when the surface winds exceed 25 knots.



TURBULENCE LEVELS OF INTENSITY

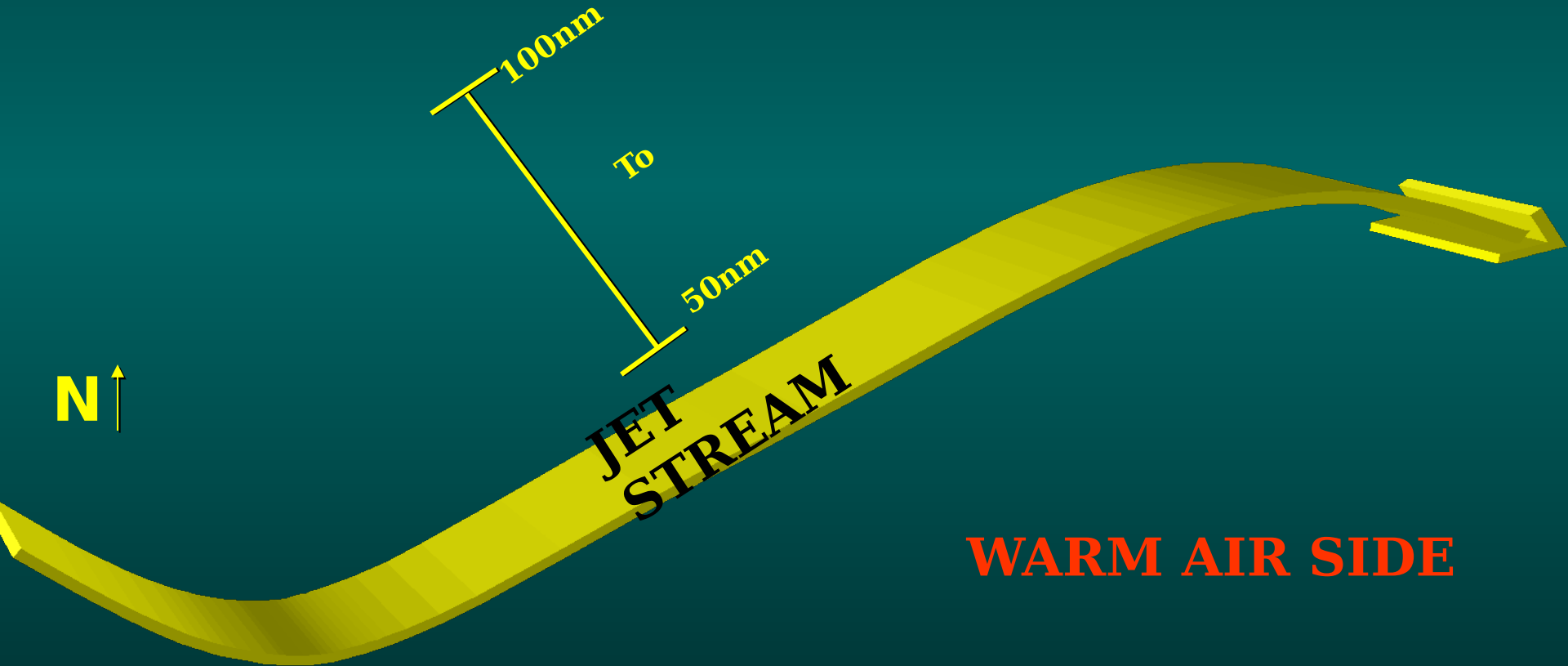
3. When wind components of 25 to over 50 knots exist near the ridge level, turbulence may be seen 150-300 miles on the leeward side of the mountain.



TURBULENCE LEVELS OF INTENSITY

4. Near Jet Stream altitude, and about 50-100 mile cold-air side of the jet.

COLD AIR SIDE



WARM AIR SIDE

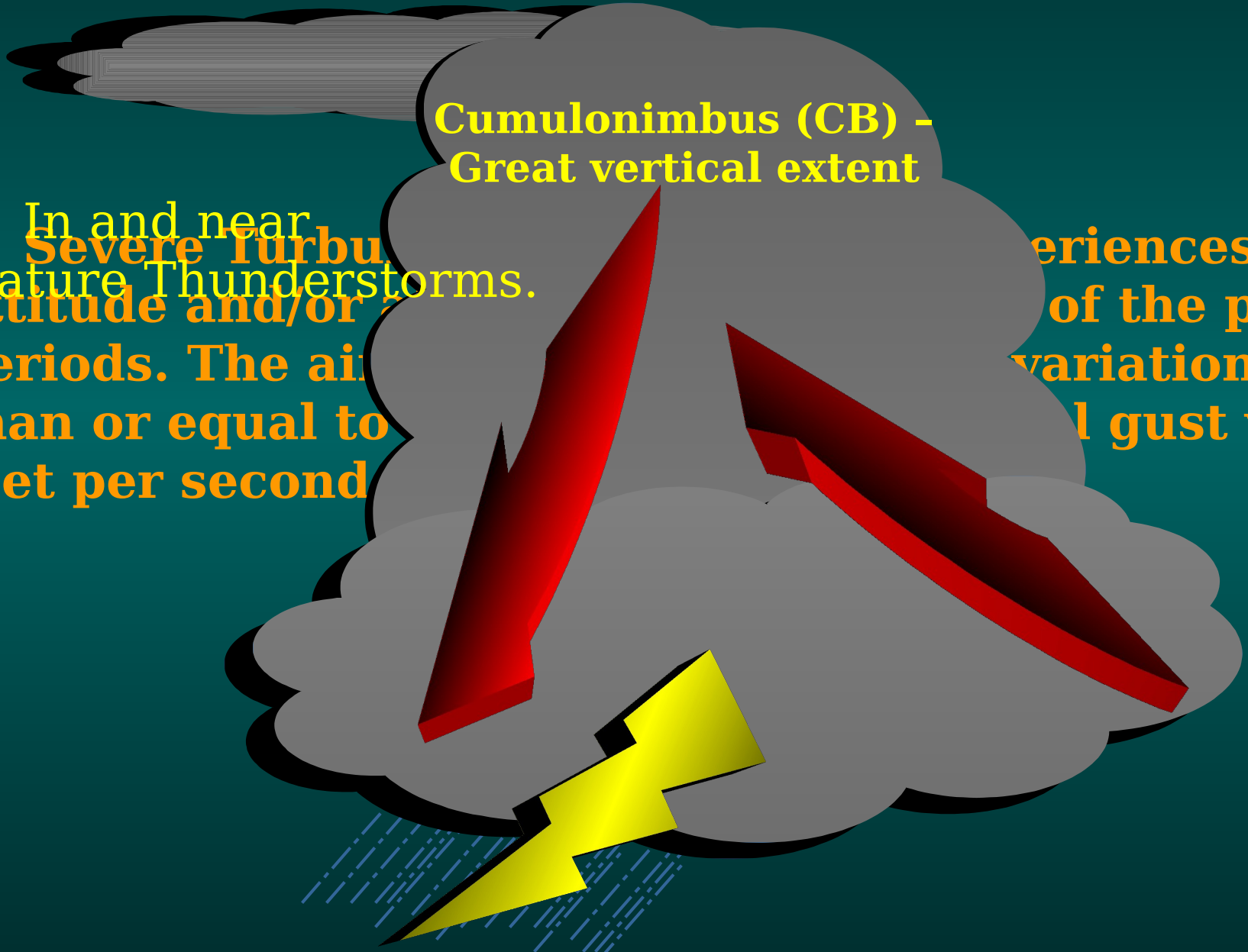
TURBULENCE

LEVELS OF INTENSITY

**Cumulonimbus (CB) -
Great vertical extent**

1. In and near
3. Severe turbulence
mature Thunderstorms.
attitude and/or
periods. The air
than or equal to
feet per second

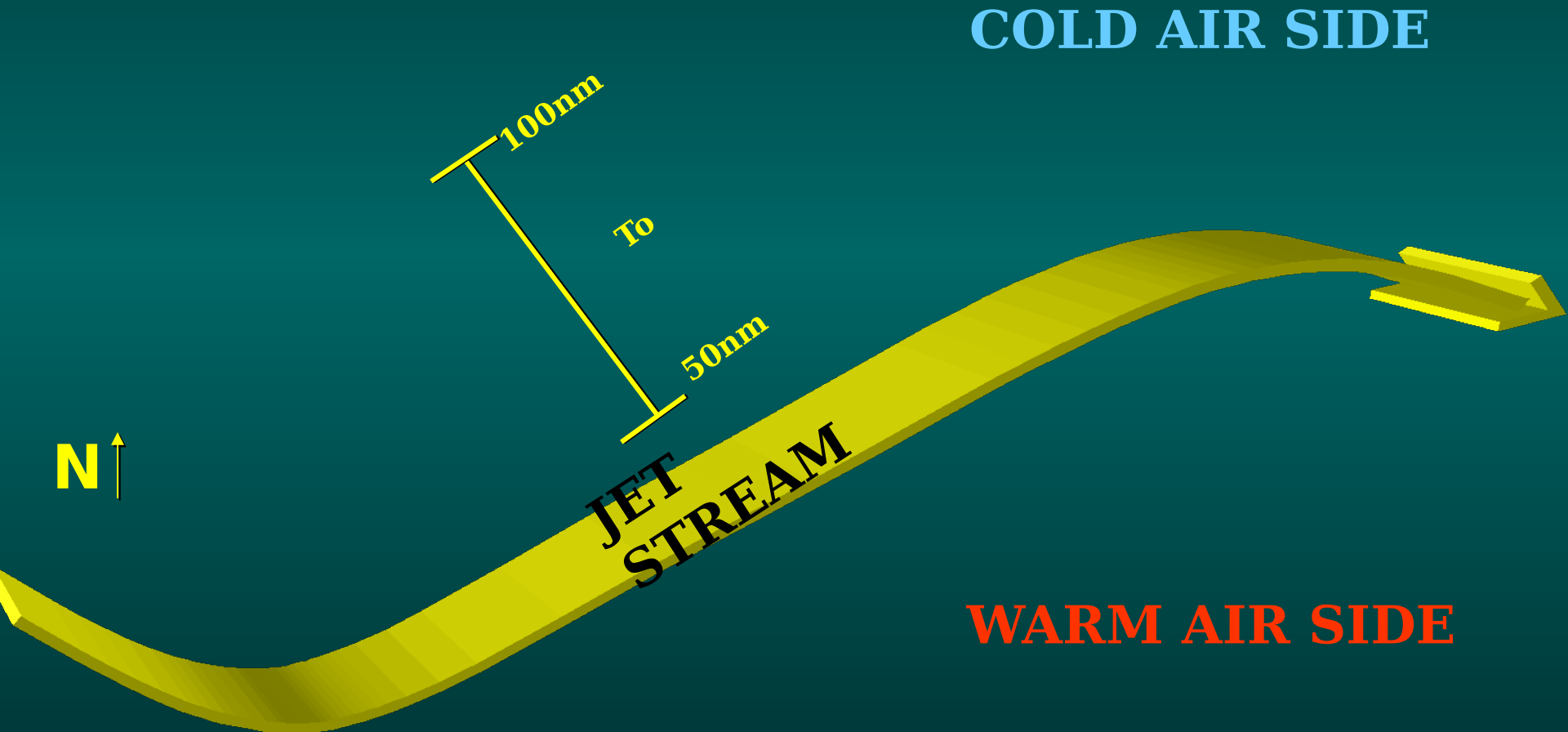
experiences abrupt
of the pilot's
variations is at
gust velocity



TURBULENCE

LEVELS OF INTENSITY

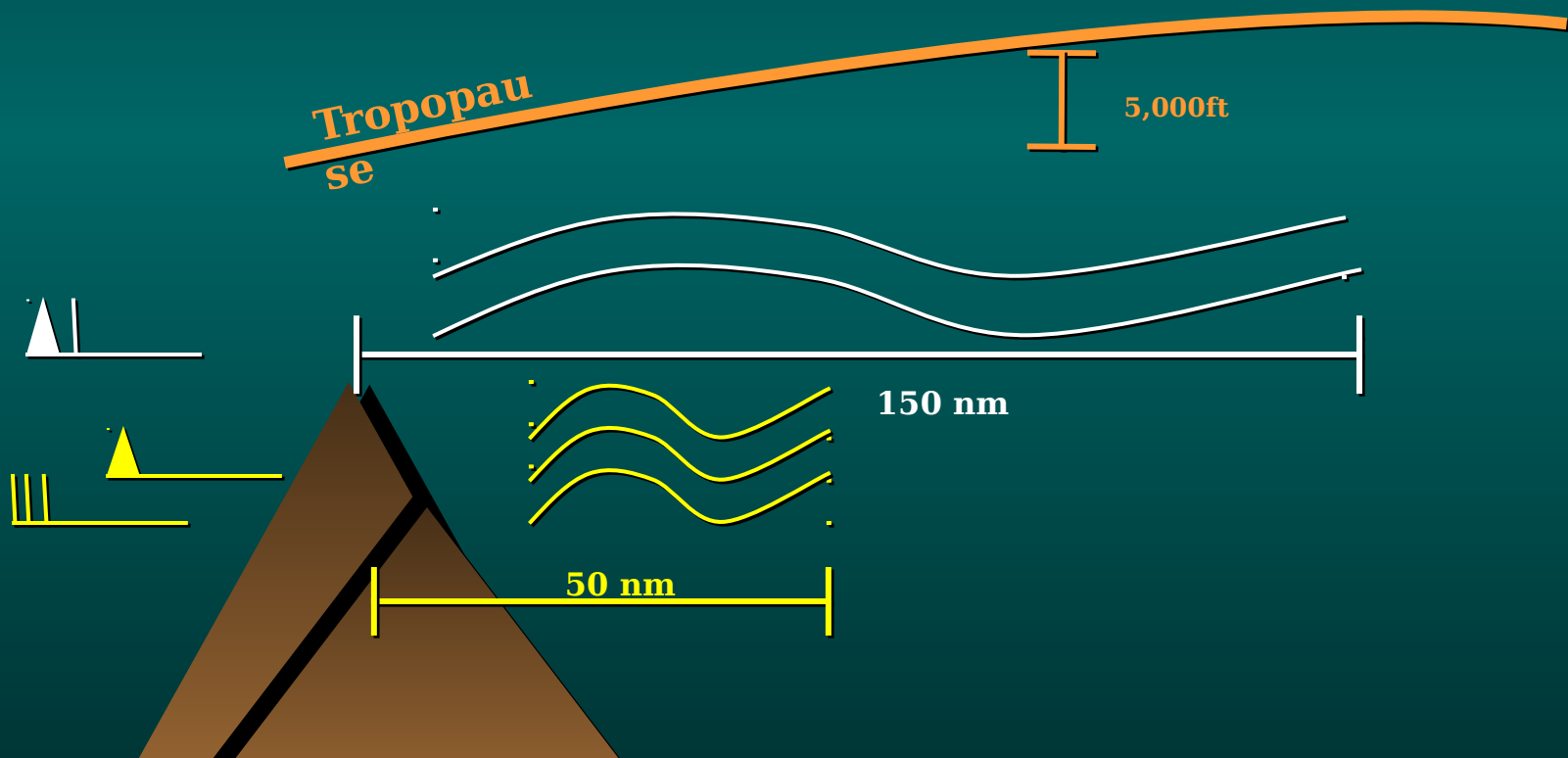
2. Near Jet Stream altitude, and about 50-100 mil cold-air side of the jet core.



TURBULENCE

LEVELS OF INTENSITY

3. In mountain waves, 50 miles on leeward side, with knots.
4. Up to 150 miles , leeward side of mountain, and within 5,000 feet of the tropopause when a mountain wave exists with winds in excess of 50 knots.



TURBULENCE

LEVELS OF INTENSITY

**4. Extreme Turbulence - The aircraft is violently tossed and
Is practically impossible to control. Structural damage is likely.
Rapid fluctuations in airspeed are the same as Severe Turbulence
(greater than or equal to 25 knots) and the vertical speed is
Greater than or equal to 50 feet per second.**

**Though Extreme Turbulence is rarely encountered, it is
Found in the strongest forms of convection and wind shear.**

The two most frequent locations are:

- 1. In mountain waves, in or near the Rotational Zone**
- 2. In severe thunderstorms, especially in the forward portion of squall lines.**

TURBULENCE

Thermal Turbulence:

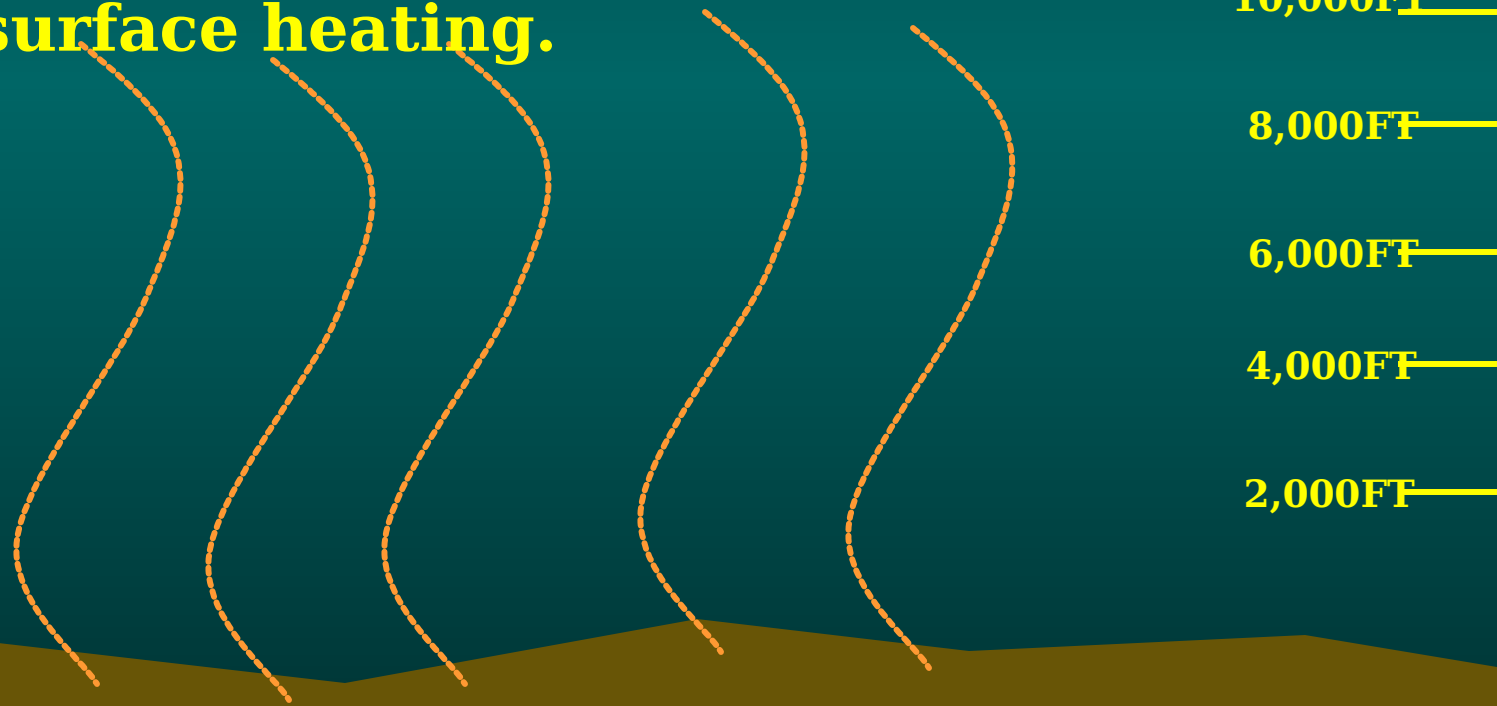
5. The strongest Thermal turbulence is found in and around thunderstorms. Moderate or severe turbulence may be encountered anywhere within the storm, including the clear air along the edges. The highest probability is found in the storm between 10,000 and 15,000 feet.

TURBULENCE

LEVELS OF INTENSITY

Thermal Turbulence:

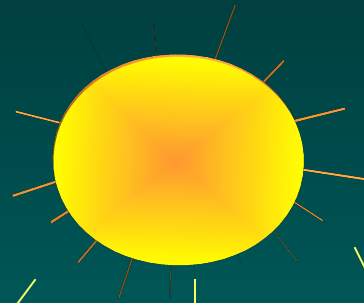
1. Normally confined to lower troposphere (SFC - 10,000 FT)
2. Moderate turbulence may occur in hot, arid regions of intense surface heating.



SURFACE

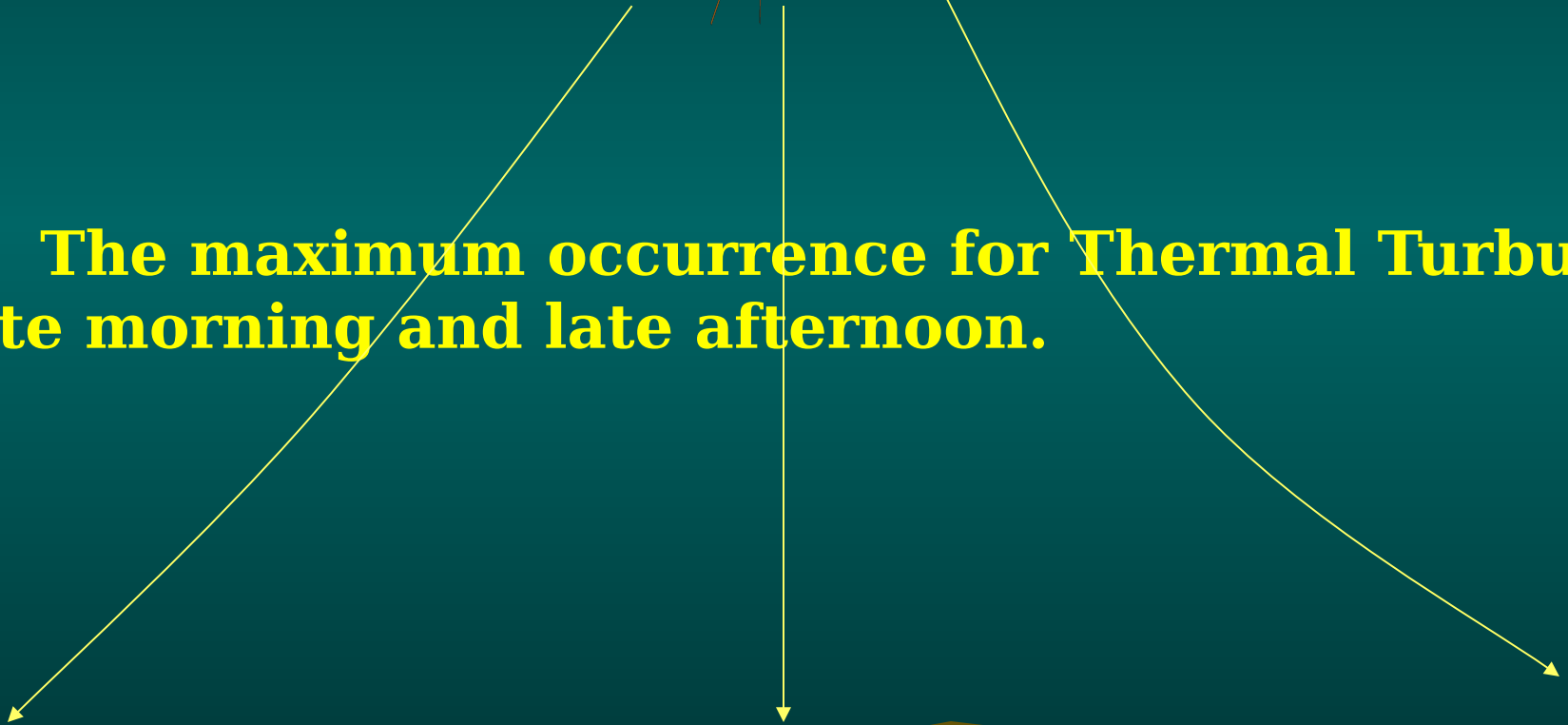
TURBULENCE

Thermal Turbulence:



HIGH NOON

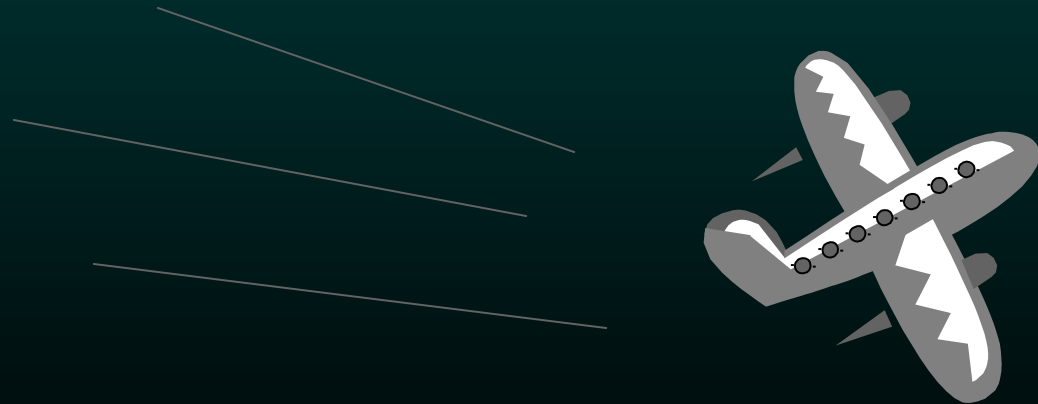
3. The maximum occurrence for Thermal Turbulence is in the late morning and late afternoon.



TURBULENCE

Thermal Turbulence:

4. The impact on flight operations is greatest during approach and departure and during low-level flight



TURBULENCE

Thermal Turbulence:

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TURBULENCE

Mechanical Turbulence:

- 1. Most turbulence results from a combination of horizontal and vertical wind shears.**
- 2. Turbulence layers are usually 2,000 feet thick, 10-20 miles long. Several times longer than wide.**
- 3. Wind Shear turbulence results from strong horizontal and vertical pressure gradients alone. It occurs when the pressure gradient is strong enough to cause horizontal shear in either wind direction or speed.**
- 4. Local terrain can magnify gradient winds to cause turbulence near the surface. This creates eddy currents that can make flight operations hazardous.**

TURBULENCE

Mechanical Turbulence:

- 5. Most turbulence resulting from upper frontal zone
Between 10,000 - 30,000 feet.**
- 6. The jet stream causes most turbulence in the upper
and lower stratosphere, usually occurring in patches
with the strongest Turbulence found on the cold-air side of
Jet Stream.**
- 7. Fronts may produce moderate or greater turbulence**
 - 1. Turbulence intensity will depend on the strength of the front.**
 - 2. Over rough terrain, fronts produce moderate or greater low-level Turbulence.**
 - 3. Over flat terrain, fronts moving at 30kts also produce moderate or greater low-level turbulence.**
 - 4. Updrafts may reach up to 1,000 feet per minute in the
zone at low-levels just ahead of a front.**

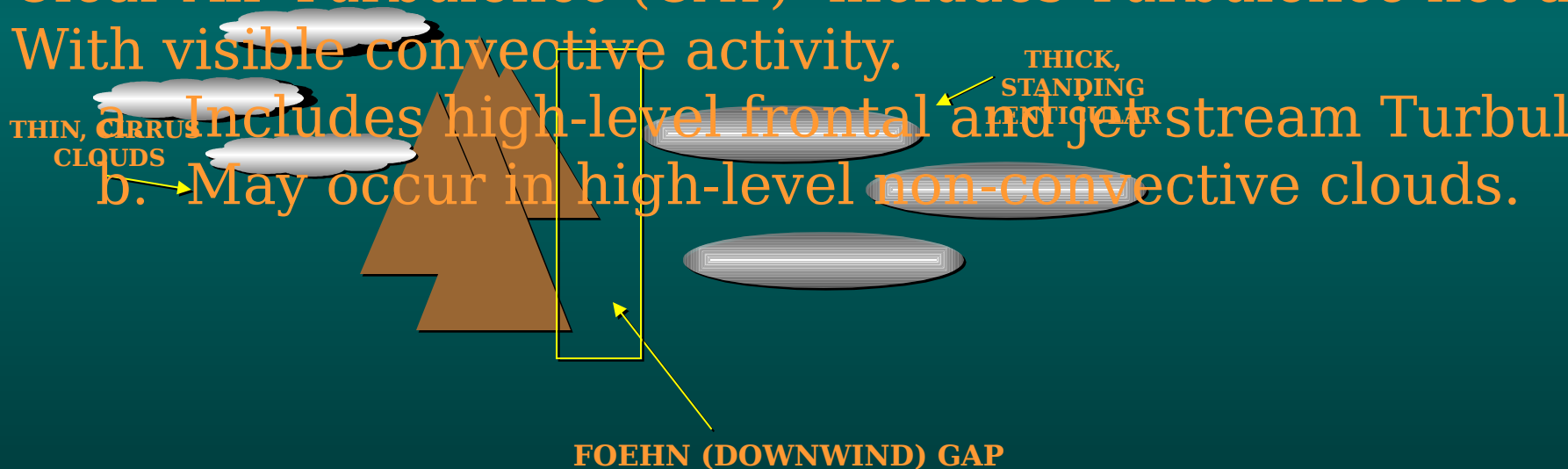
TURBULENCE

Mechanical Turbulence:

8. MOUNTAIN WAVE - The most severe type of terrain Turbulence. It occurs in clear air and in a stationary pattern of a predominant mountain range. It is caused by the disturbance of the wind by the mountain range.

9. Clear Air Turbulence (CAT)- includes Turbulence not associated with visible convective activity.

- a. Includes high-level frontal and jet stream Turbulence.
- b. May occur in high-level non-convective clouds.



TURBULENCE

Mechanical Turbulence:

9. Clear Air Turbulence (CAT)- includes Turbulence not associated with visible convective activity.
 - a. Includes high-level frontal and jet stream Turbulence
 - b. May occur in high-level non-convective clouds.

AIRCRAFT ICING

STRUCTURAL ICING INTERFERES WITH AIRCRAFT CONTROL BY INCREASING DRAG AND WEIGHT WHILE DECREASING LIFT.

ENGINE-SYSTEMS ICING REDUCES THE EFFECTIVE POWER OF AIRCRAFT ENGINES.

ICING FACTS

**ICING MAY OCCUR DURING ANY SEASON OF THE
YEAR**

More frequent during winter season

- ❑ Aircraft Icing generally occurs between Freezing Level and 20,000 feet (rare at temperatures below -30°C).**
- ❑ The frequency of Icing decreases rapidly with decreasing temperatures.**
- ❑ Icing is usually restricted to lower 30,000 feet of atmosphere.**

ICING Types

AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL ICING CONSISTS OF 3 TYPES

- 1. CLEAR**
- 2. RIME**
- 3. FROST**

- MIXTURES OF CLEAR AND RIME ARE COMMON (MIXED)**
- THE TYPE OF ICING THAT OCCURS IS DEPENDANT UPON THE TEMPERATURE AND WATER DROPLET SIZE**

ICING Types

CLEAR ICING - GLOSSY, CLEAR OR TRANSLUCENT ICE FORMED BY RELATIVELY SLOW FREEZING OF LARGE SUPERCOOLED DROPLETS.

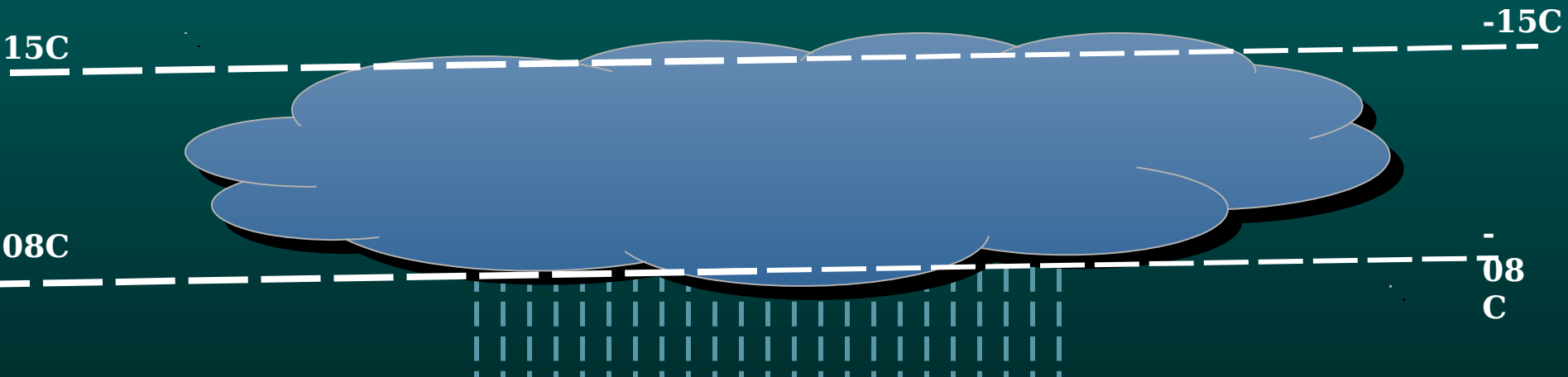
- * POTENTIALLY THE MOST DANGEROUS TYPE OF ICING .**
- THE DROPLETS SPREAD OUT OVER THE AIRFRAME SURFACE BEFORE COMPLETELY FREEZING.**
- * SINCE IT IS TRANSPARENT, THE ICING MAY GO UNDETECTED.**

ICING Types

CLEAR ICING

Adheres firmly to the exposed surfaces, and is much more difficult to remove with deicing equipment than rime icing.

Occurs most frequently within Stratus clouds at temperatures between -8°C and -15°C .

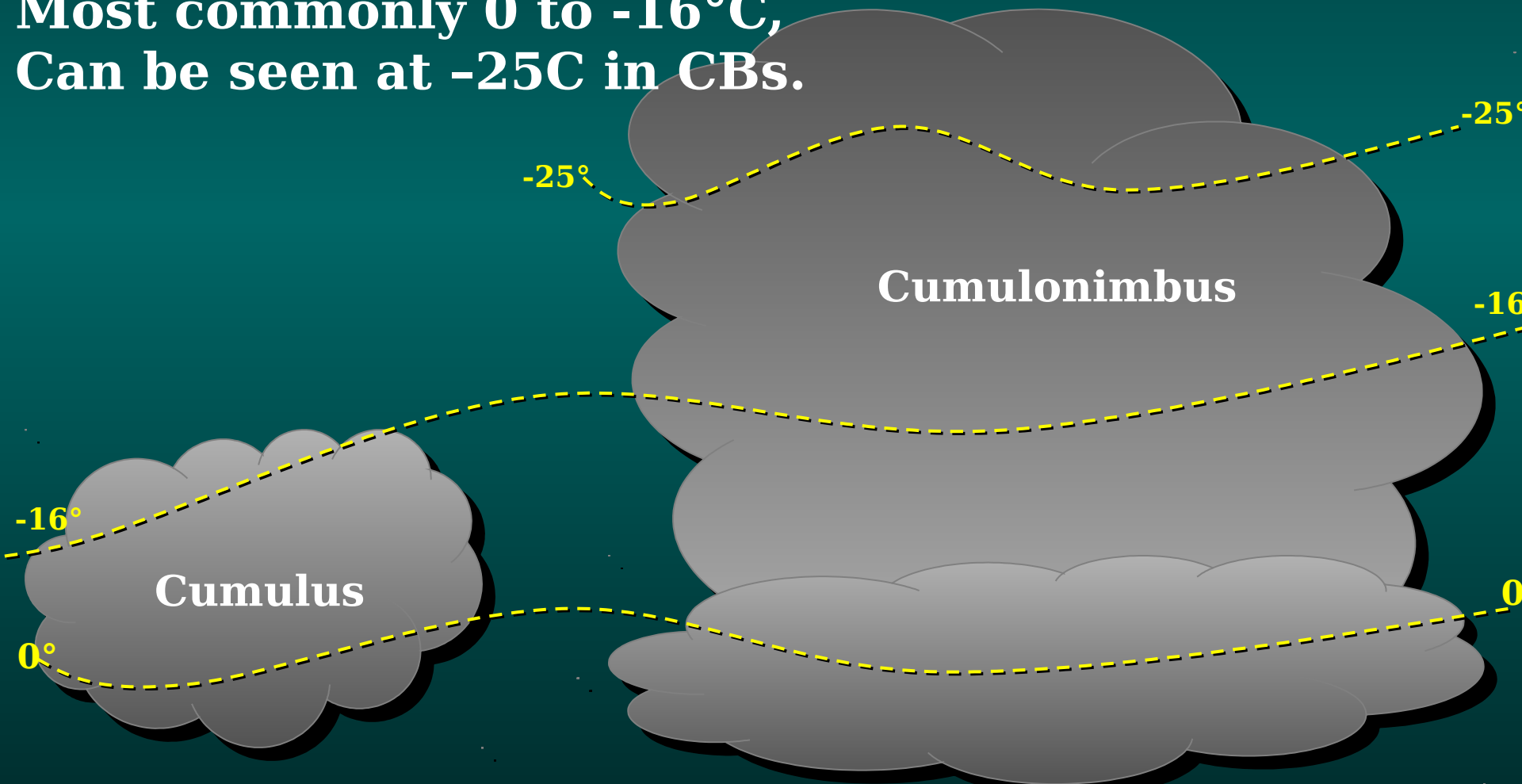


ICING

Types

CLEAR ICING

Forms in cumulus clouds,
Most commonly 0 to -16°C ,
Can be seen at -25°C in CBs.



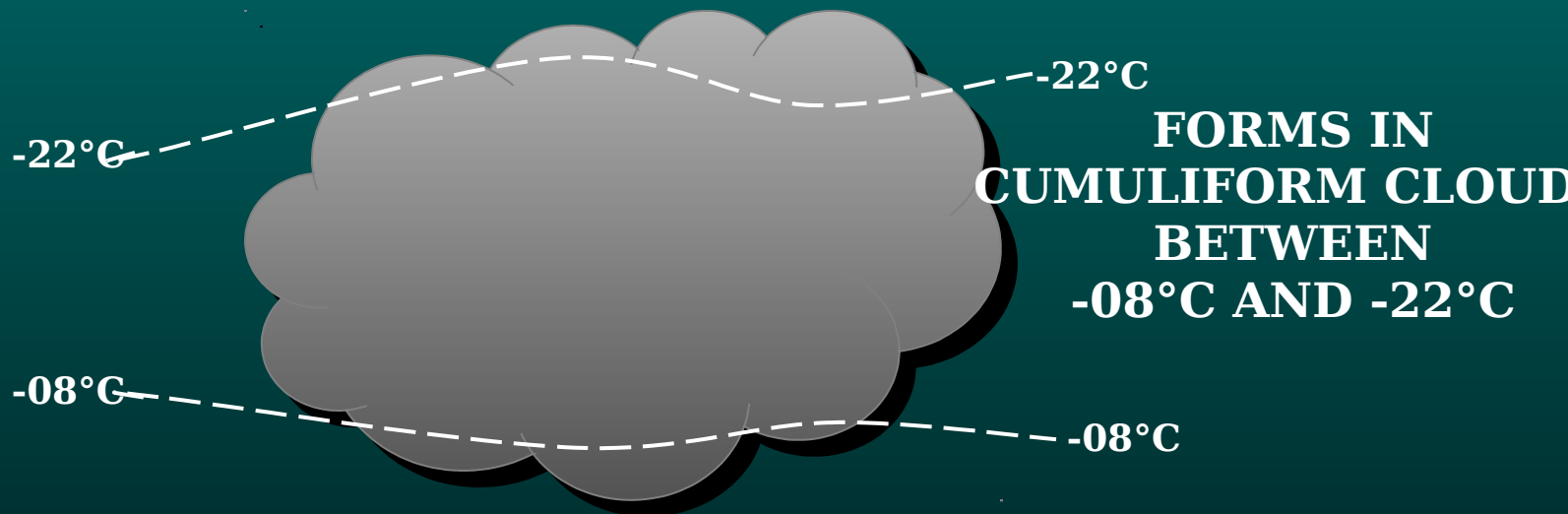
ICING

Types

RIME ICING -

A MILKY, OPAQUE, AND GRANULAR DEPOSIT WITH A ROUGH SURFACE

IT FORMS BY THE RAPID FREEZING OF SMALL SUPERCOOLED WATER DROPLETS. THIS INSTANTANEOUS FREEZING TRAPS A LARGE AMOUNT OF AIR, GIVING THE ICE ITS OPAQUENESS. MAKING IT VERY BRITTLE.

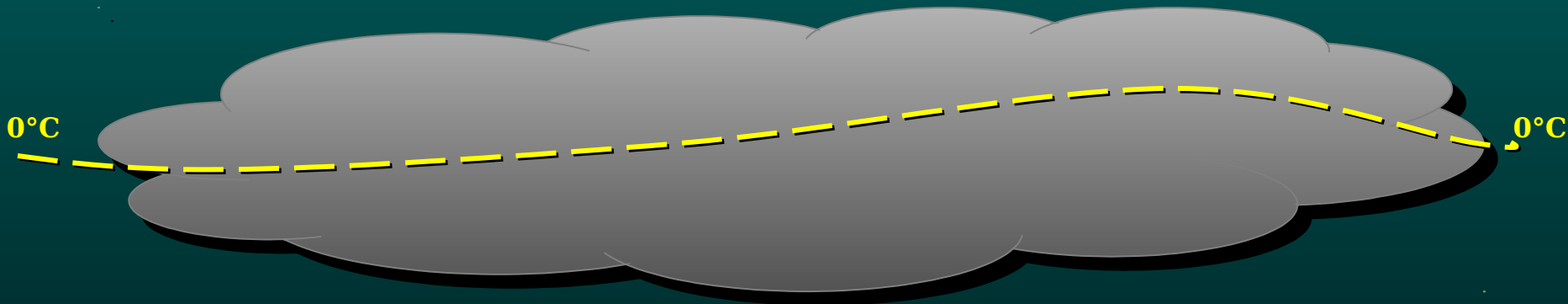


ICING Types

RIME ICING -

A MILKY, OPAQUE, AND GRANULAR
DEPOSIT WITH A ROUGH SURFACE

CAN FORM IN STRATIFORM CLOUDS FROM 0°C TO -22°C,
BUT IT OCCURS MOST FREQUENTLY -8°C TO -22°C



ICING

Types

FROST ICING -

FROST IS A LIGHT, FEATHERY DEPOSIT OF ICE CRYSTALS THAT FORM WHEN WATER VAPOR CONTACTS A SUBFREEZING SURFACE.

FROST CAN OCCUR ON AN AIRCRAFT IN FLIGHT, ON THE GROUND, AND ON THE UPPER SURFACES OF PARKED AIRCRAFT DURING A CLEAR NIGHT WITH SUBFREEZING TEMPERATURES.

IT ALSO AFFECTS THE AIRCRAFT'S LIFT-TO-DRAG RATIO AND CAN BE HAZARDOUS DURING TAKE-OFF

ICING

Types

MIXED ICING -

A COMBINATION OF RIME AND CLEAR ICING. IT IS FORMED WHEN WATER DROPLETS VARY IN SIZE OR WHEN LIQUID DROPLETS ARE COMBINED WITH SNOW OR ICE PARTICLES.

THE ICE PARTICLES BECOME EMBEDDED IN THE CLEAR ICING , BUILDING A VERY ROUGH APPEARANCE THAT CAN FORM RAPIDLY ON THE AIRFRAME.

- MOST COMMON AT TEMPERATURES -08°C TO -15°C
- SIMILAR FORMATION TO RIME AND CLEAR ICING



ICING

Intensities

- Trace** - Icing first becomes perceptible as trace icing. The rate of accumulation is slightly greater than the sublimation rate. Trace icing is not hazardous to operations unless it persists for longer than 1 hour.
- Light** - Icing condition persists for over 1-hour. Accumulation begins to create a problem for the aircraft. Occasional use of anti-icing equipment removes and/or prevents accumulation.
- Moderate** - The rate of accumulation causes even short encounters with icing to be potentially hazardous. The use of deicing/anti-icing equipment is necessary.
- Severe** - The rate of accumulation is so strong that deicing/anti-icing equipment fails to reduce or control the hazard. Immediate diversion is required.

ICING VARIABLES

1. AIRSPEED -

The rate of ice formation increases with the speed of the aircraft. However, at very high speeds, friction creates enough heat on the aircraft to melt structural ice. Icing is seldom a problem at air speeds of 575 knots.

Helicopter rotor speeds of 570 to 575 knots preclude ice buildup on the outer portion of the main rotor blades. The chance of ice buildup on the inner portion, however, increases inward toward the rotor disk.

2. AIRCRAFT SIZE AND SHAPE -

The rate of ice formation will vary with size, shape and smoothness of surfaces and airfoils. Ice accumulates faster on larger non-streamlined surfaces with rough surface features than it does on thin, smooth highly streamlined aircraft. However, once ice has formed, the rate of ice formation increases since the accumulated ice presents a larger surface area upon which more ice can collect and freeze.

METEOROLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

CLOUDS

STRATIFORM CLOUDS

- POTENTIAL CONTINUOUS ICING CONDITIONS (RIME & MIXED)
- INTENSITIES IN-CLOUD RANGE FROM LIGHT TO MODERATE
- MULTIPLE LAYERS OF CLOUDS MAY BE SO CLOSE TOGETHER THAT FLYING IN BETWEEN LAYERS IS IMPOSSIBLE.

